

**How can Computational Geometry help  
Mobile Networks:**

# **Geometry in Wireless Sensor Networks**

Jie Gao

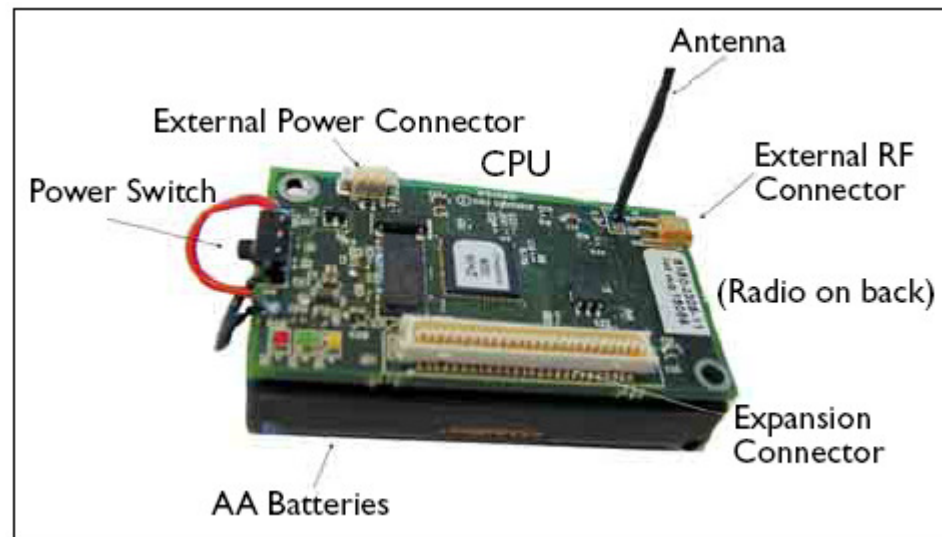
Stony Brook University

CG Week 2012

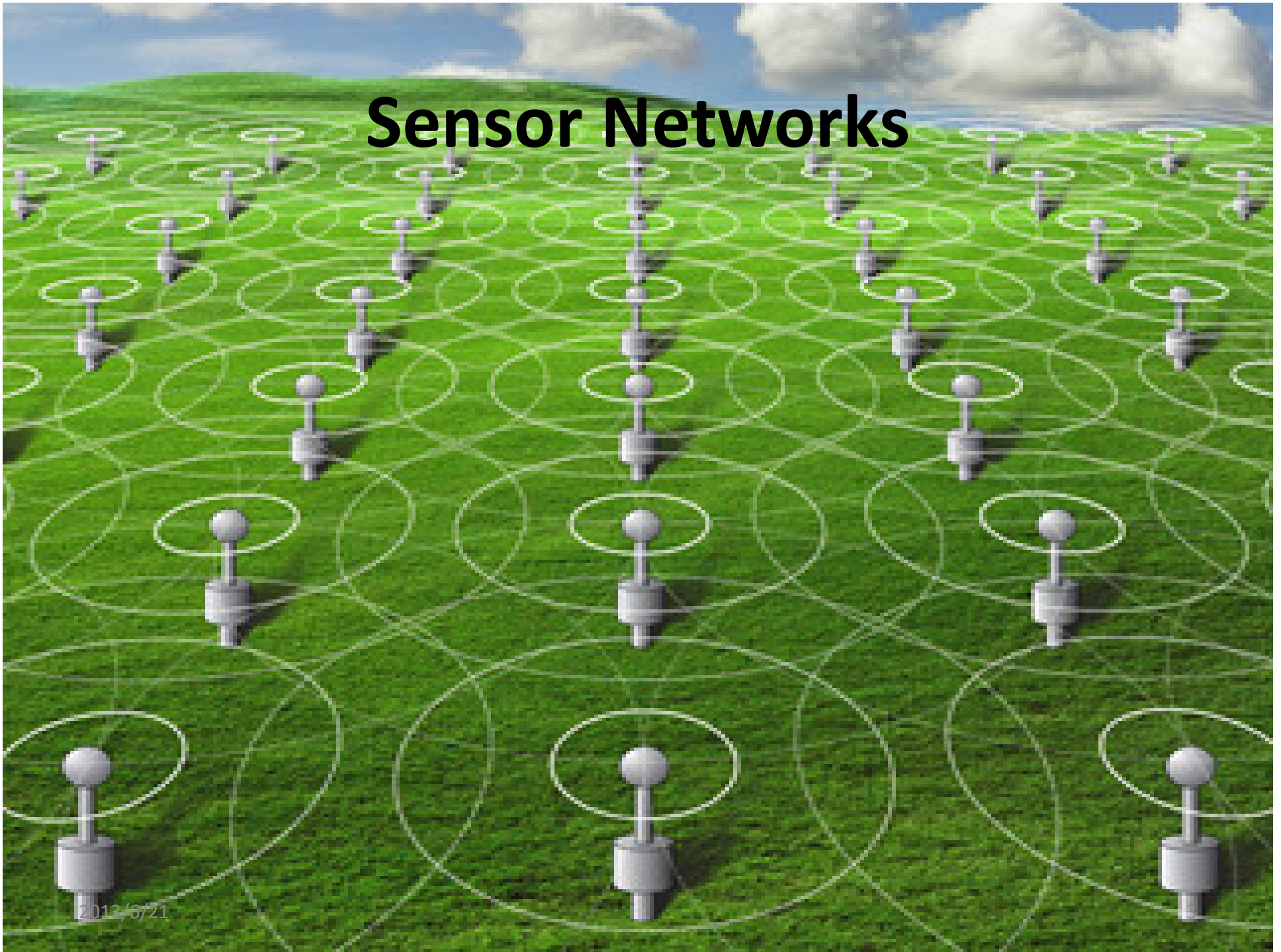
Algorithms in the Field Workshop

# A generic sensor node

- CPU.
- On-board flash **memory** or external memory
- Sensors: thermometer, camera, motion, light sensor, etc.
- **Wireless** radio.
- **Battery.**



# Sensor Networks



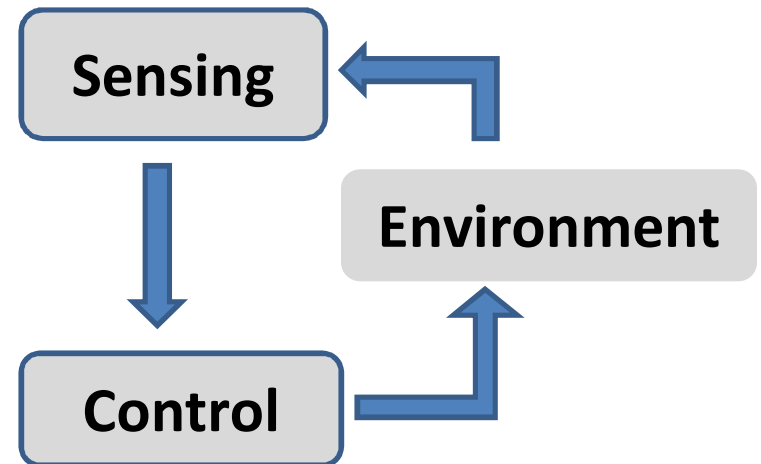
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# Applications

- Initially: **Scientific Monitoring**
  - High-resolution data collection and monitoring.
  - Deploy sensors in a remote region, collect data to a base station.
- Examples
  - Habitat monitoring of animal behaviors
  - Environment monitoring (redwoods, golden gate bridge, tunnels, etc)

# Applications

- Later: **Cyber Physical Systems (CPS)**, **Internet of Things (IoT)**
  - Real-time data acquisition.
  - Situation understanding.
  - Event response and control.
- Examples:
  - Health monitoring
  - Smart buildings; green buildings
  - SmartGrid



# Applications

- Emerging: **Participatory Sensing**
  - Sensors on cellular phones (GPS, microphone, cameras...)
  - “Crowdsourcing”
  - Devices are available, charged & maintained.
- Applications
  - Social activities (foursquare)
  - Traffic monitoring (waze)

# Where is the geometry?

1. Sensor locations
  - Points in the plane
  - Points on a terrain
  - Points in 3D
  - Mobile sensors

# Where is the geometry?

## 2. Sensor communication models

- Short-range communication (for reducing energy consumption/interference)
- E.g. Unit disk graph model (UDG)



# Where is the geometry?

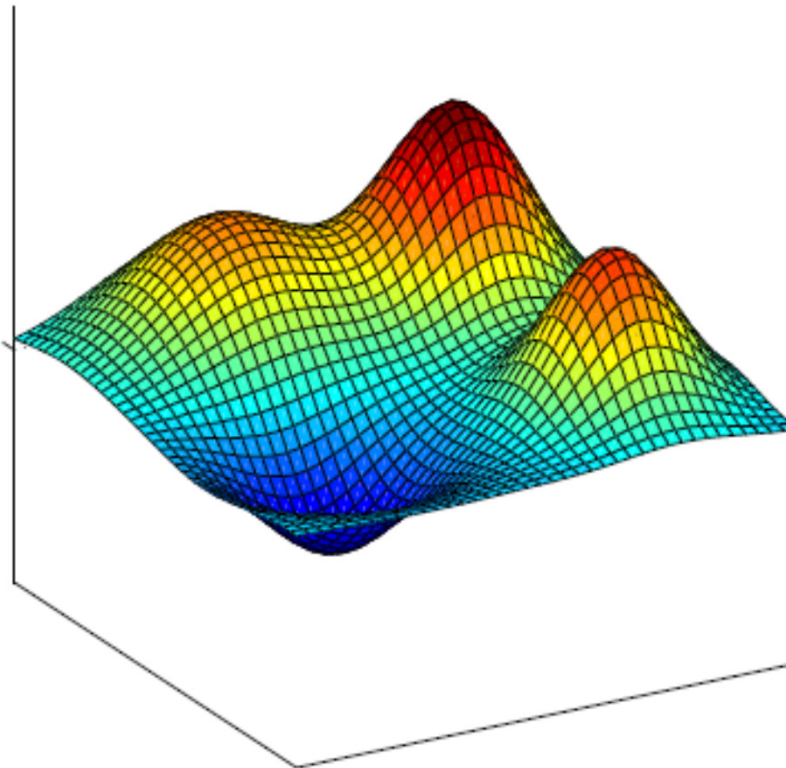
## 3. Sensing models

- Isotropic: point, disk.
- Non-isotropic: camera, laser.

# Where is the geometry?

## 4. Sensor data

- Spatial & temporal correlation in most physical phenomena



# Model is important

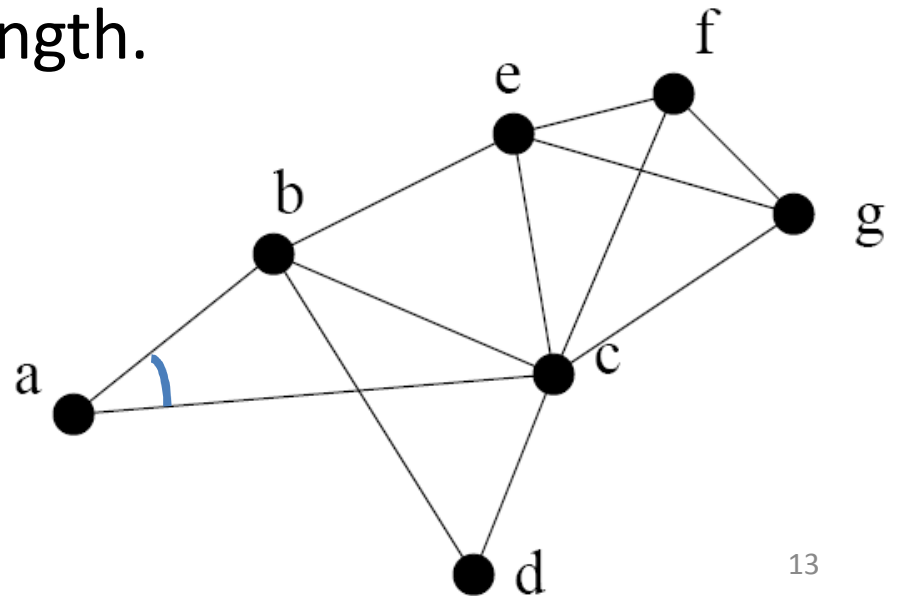
- Captures important properties
- Simple enough s.t. interesting results can be proved.
- Multiple interesting models & solutions.

# Two case study

- Network localization
- Geometric routing

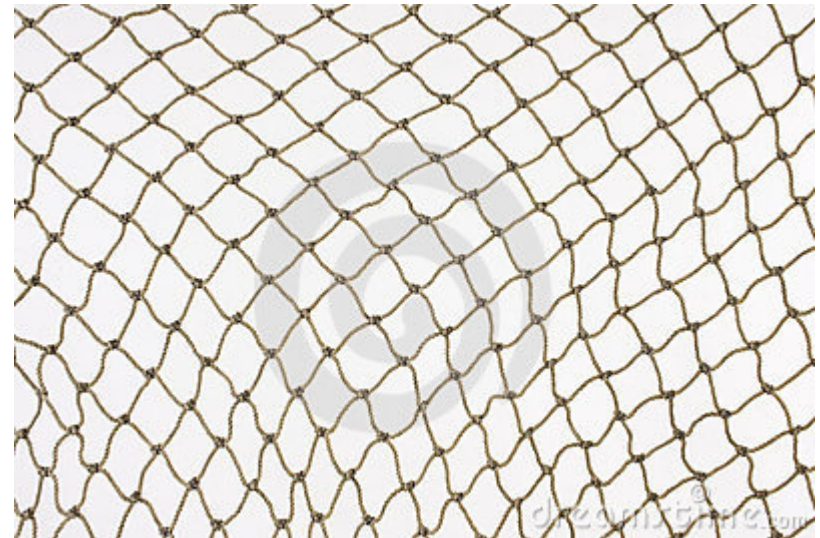
# Network Localization

- Given a network of sensors, find their (absolute or relative) positions.
- Input:
  - Network connectivity.
  - (optional) noisy edge length.
  - (optional) noisy angles.



# Unit disk graph realization

- Given a graph, can you realize it as a unit disk graph in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ?



# Unit disk graph realization

- Given a graph, can you realize it as a unit disk graph in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ?
- **NP-complete** [Breu, Kirkpatrick'98]
- **NP-hard** to approx. within  $\sqrt{1.5}$  [Kuhn, Moscibroda, Wattenhofer'04]
- **NP-complete** w. edge lengths [Aspnes, Goldenberg, Yang'04; Badoiu, Demaine, Hajiaghayi, Indyk'04]
- **NP-complete** w. angles [Bruck, Gao, Jiang'05]
- **NP-complete** w. noisy edge length & angles [Basu, Gao, Mitchell, Sabhnani'06]

# Unit disk graph realization

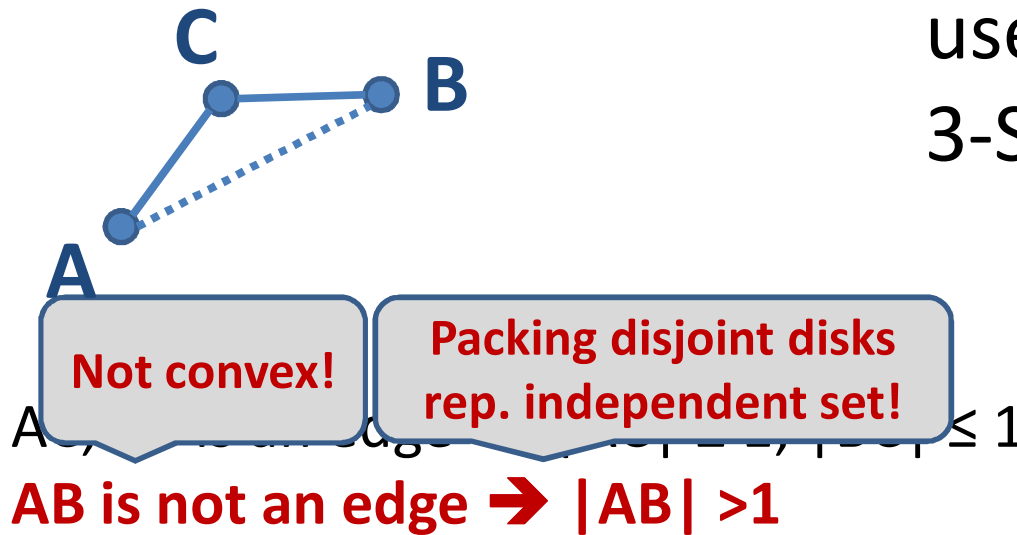
- Approximation?
- Known:  $O(\log^{2.5} n \log \log n)$  on ratio of longest edge/ shortest non-edge [Kuhn, Moscibroda, Wattenhofer'04]
- **Open question:**  $O(1)$ -approximation?

Given a combinatorial UDG, embed all neighbors to be within distance 1, and all non-neighbors at least  $\alpha$  apart, for a constant  $\alpha$ .



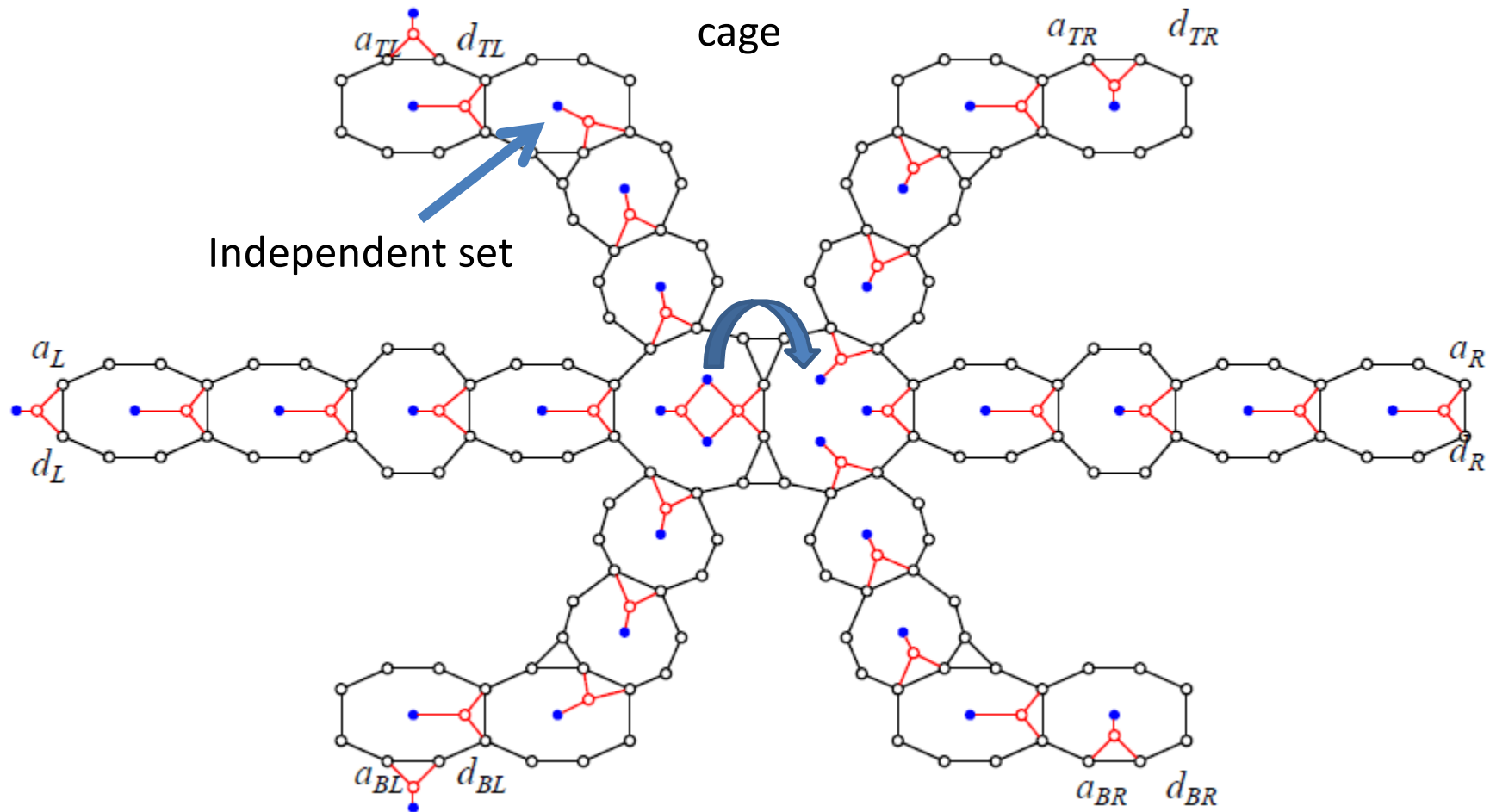
# Why is UDG realization so hard?

- Intuitively,



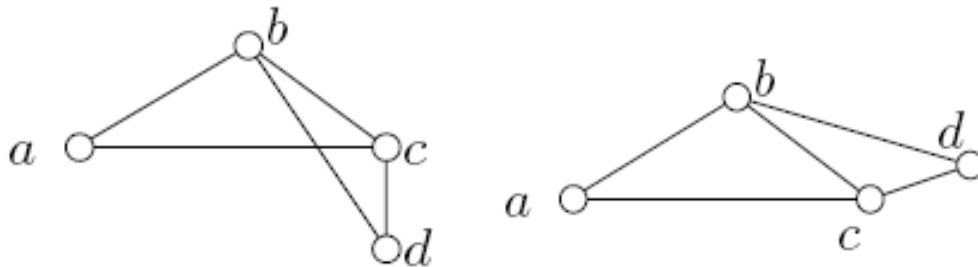
- Formally, all proofs use reduction from 3-SAT.

# Truth setting gadget

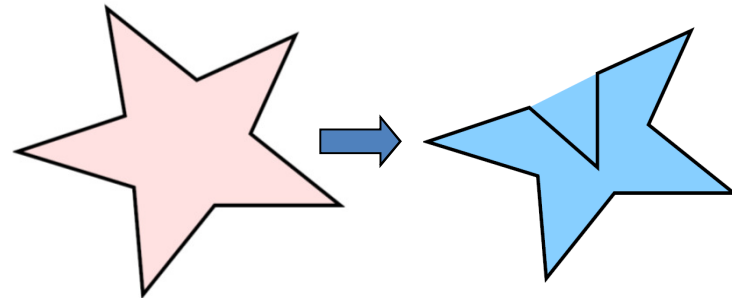


## 2nd challenge: flip ambiguity

- Given two triangles with **fixed** edge length, one can flip one triangle relative to the other.

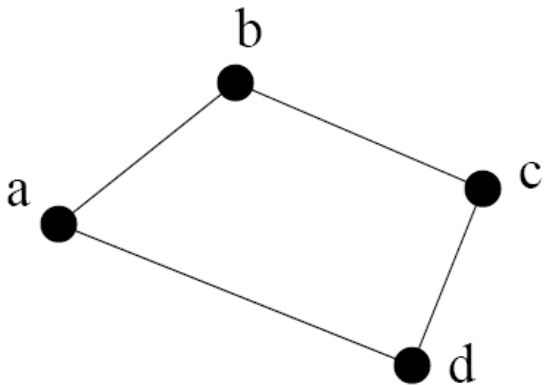


- Incorrect global flip.

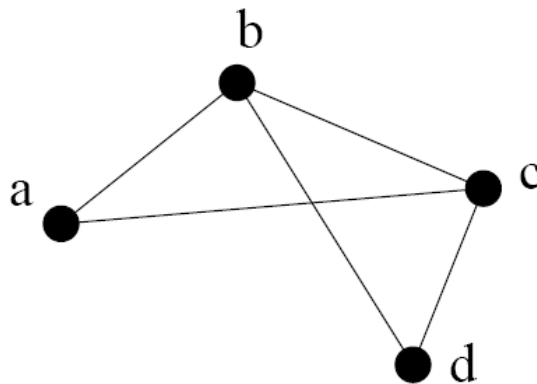


# Rigidity and global rigidity

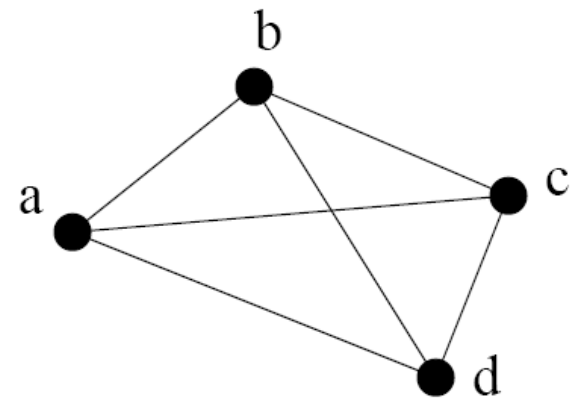
- **Rigidity:** no continuous deformation
- **Global rigidity:** unique embedding in  $\mathbb{R}^2$



Not rigid



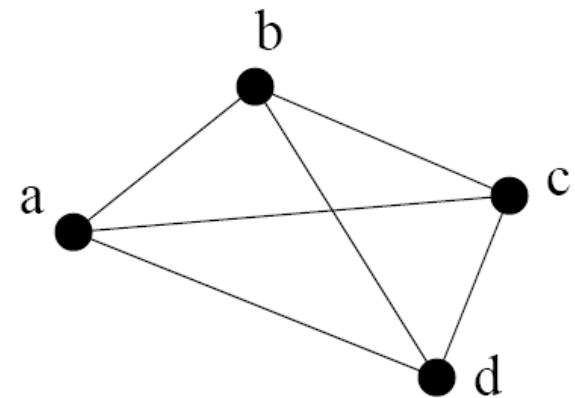
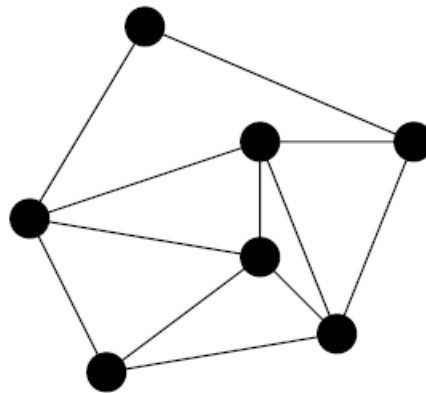
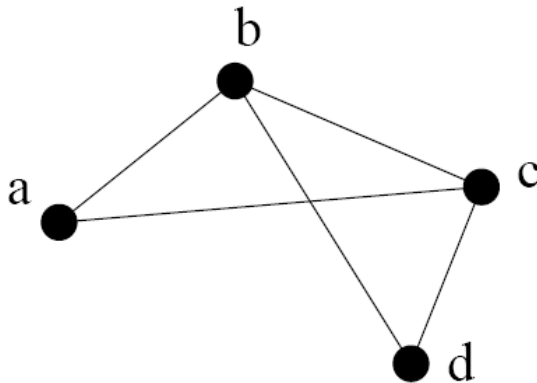
Rigid, not globally rigid



Globally rigid

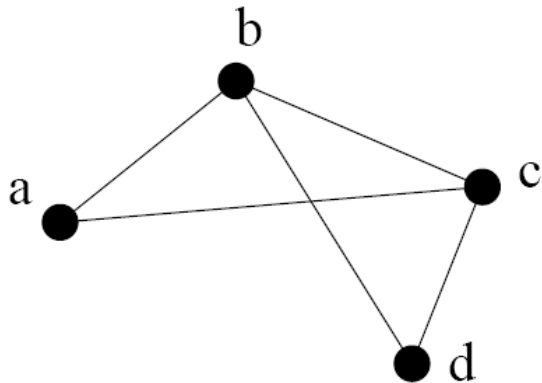
# 2D rigidity is well understood!

- A graph is rigid in 2D if and only if it contains a **Laman graph** on its vertices.
- A Laman graph has  $n$  vertices,  $2n-3$  edges and any subset of  $k$  vertices spans at most  $2k-3$  edges.

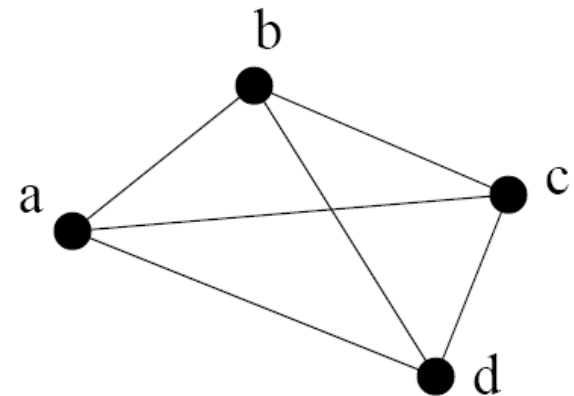
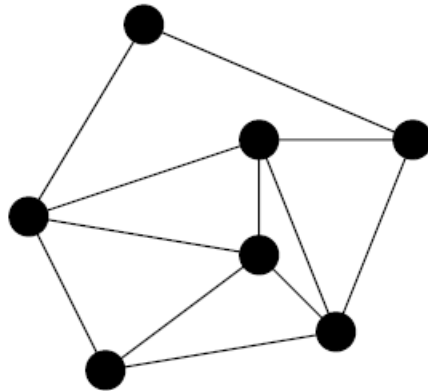


# Global rigidity

- A graph is globally rigid in 2D iff it is **3-connected** and **redundantly rigid** (rigid upon the removal of an edge).



Rigid, not globally rigid



Globally rigid

[Berg, Jordan 2003] [Hendrickson 1992]

# Recognizing rigidity is easy

- **Pebble game:** test whether a graph is generically rigid in time  $O(nm)$ ,  $n=|V|$ ,  $m=|E|$ .
- Testing global rigidity?
  - Test redundant rigidity
  - Test 3-connectivity.

D. J. Jacobs and B. Hendrickson, An Algorithm for two dimensional rigidity percolation: The pebble game. J. Comput. Phys., 137:346-365, 1997.

# But finding an embedding is hard!

- Given a graph with edge lengths specified, finding a valid graph realization in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  for a **fixed** dimension  $d$  is NP-complete.
- Rank constraint is non-convex.
- 1<sup>st</sup> idea: embed in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  and project down to  $\mathbb{R}^2$  – multi-dimensional scaling.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> idea: poly time algorithm for **special families of graphs.**



What about dense graphs?



# A detour

- Look at a different model of the network.

# Local view

# Global view

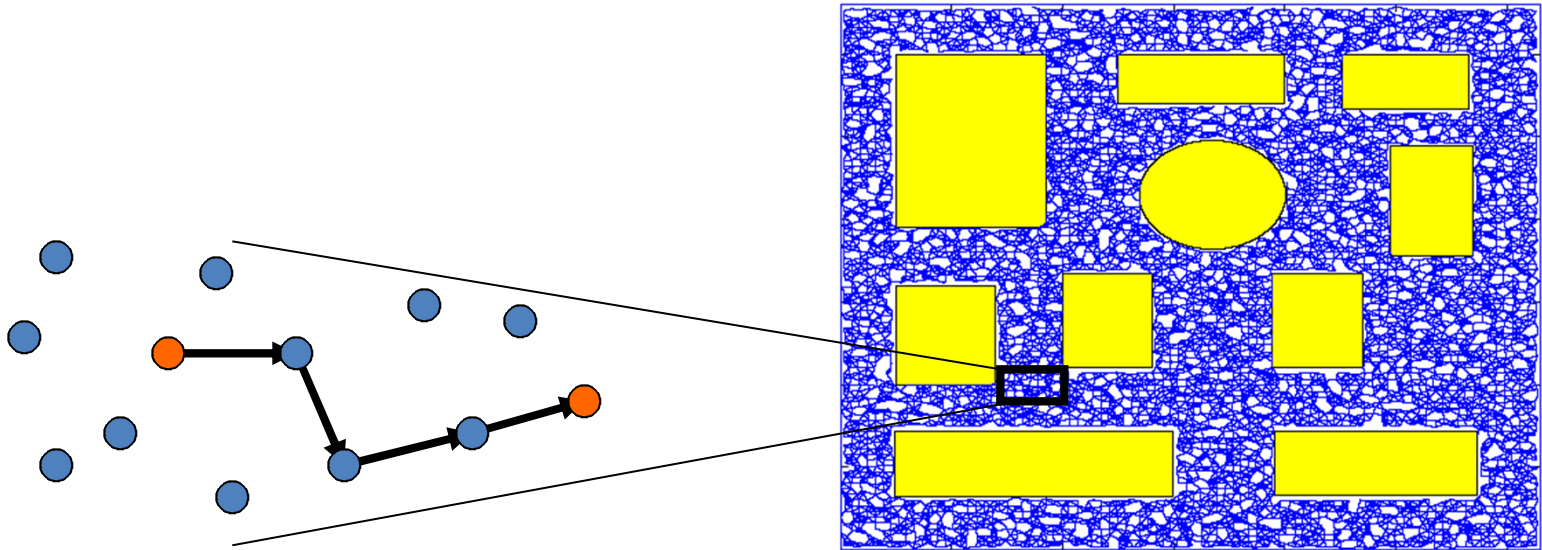
**obstacles**



The diagram shows a 2D environment represented by a dense blue triangular mesh. A yellow circle is positioned in the center of the mesh. Surrounding this circle are several yellow rectangular obstacles. One large rectangle is on the left, and a smaller one is on the right. At the bottom, there are two long horizontal rectangles. In the top center, there is a small horizontal rectangle. The word 'obstacles' is written in bold black text inside the large rectangle on the left.

# Large-scale sensor field

- large-scale, dense deployment.
  - Sufficient sensor coverage.
- w/ holes/obstacles.
- Prominent feature: **shape** of the network.



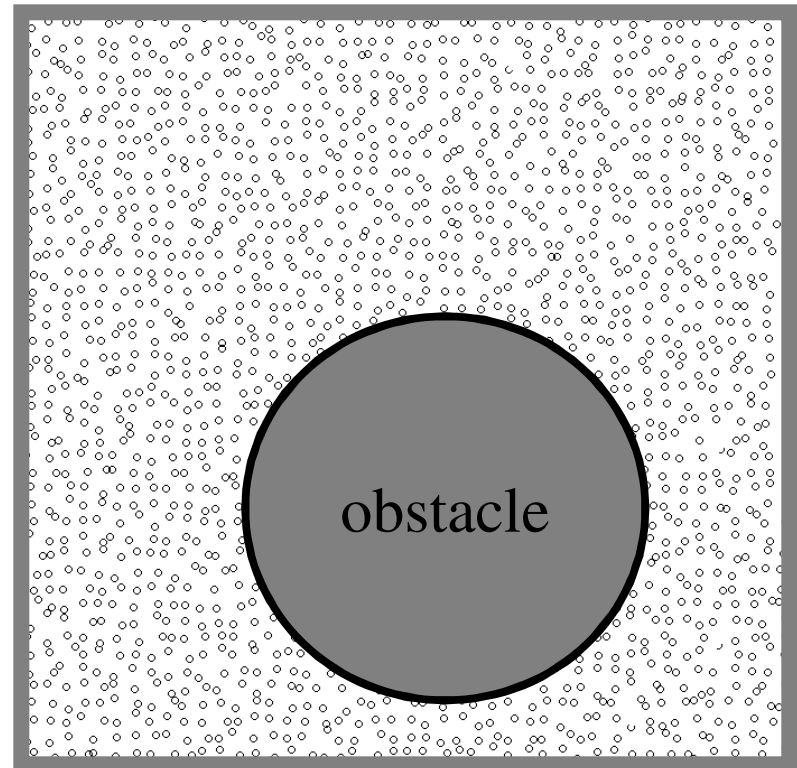
# Graph abstraction of sensor networks

- The “graph” view of a sensor network depends very much on the network connectivity, which is not stable: links come and go, nodes fail...
- Dynamic graph problems, in general, are difficult problems.



# Geometric View of Sensor Networks

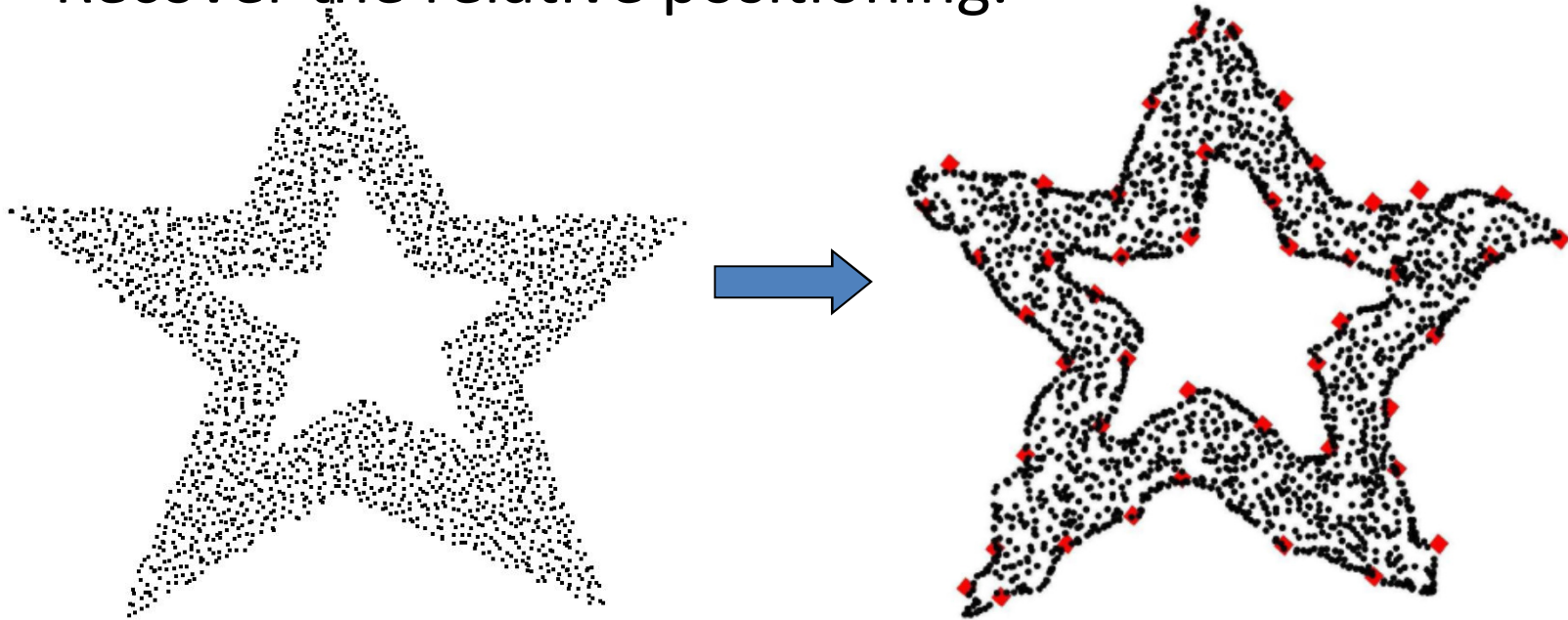
- The global geometry/topology is stable
- We know how to handle shapes



# Network Localization

## Surface reconstruction?

- Large, dense sensor field with complex geometry.
- Nearby nodes are able to communicate.
- Use connectivity information only.
- Recover the relative positioning.



# The algorithm

- Select landmarks on the boundary.

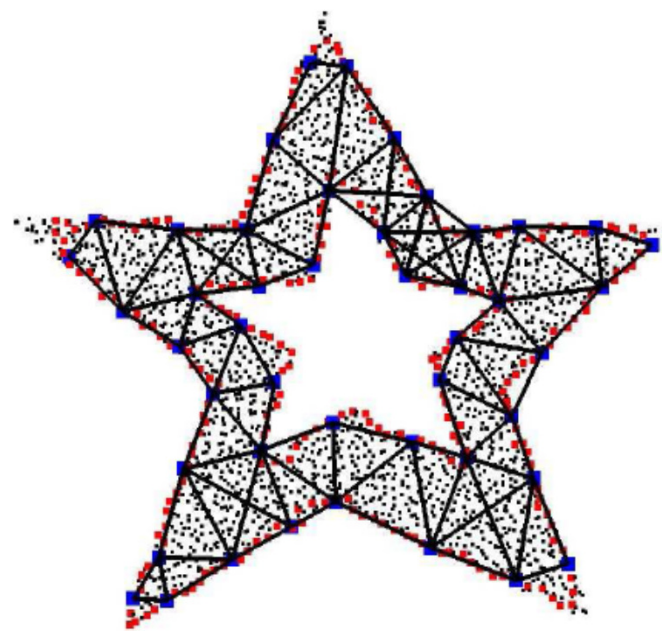
Landmark Voronoi diagram:

Nodes identify closest landmark under network distance



Combinatorial Delaunay complex:

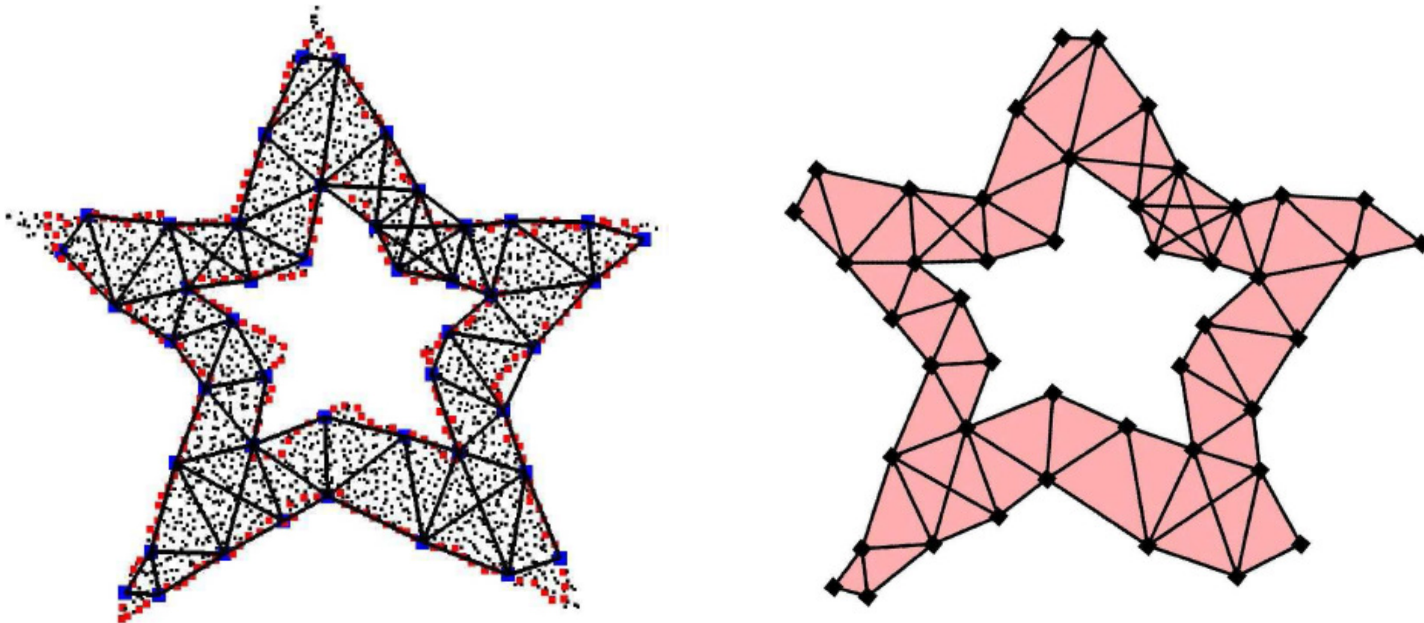
Neighboring landmarks connected by an edge





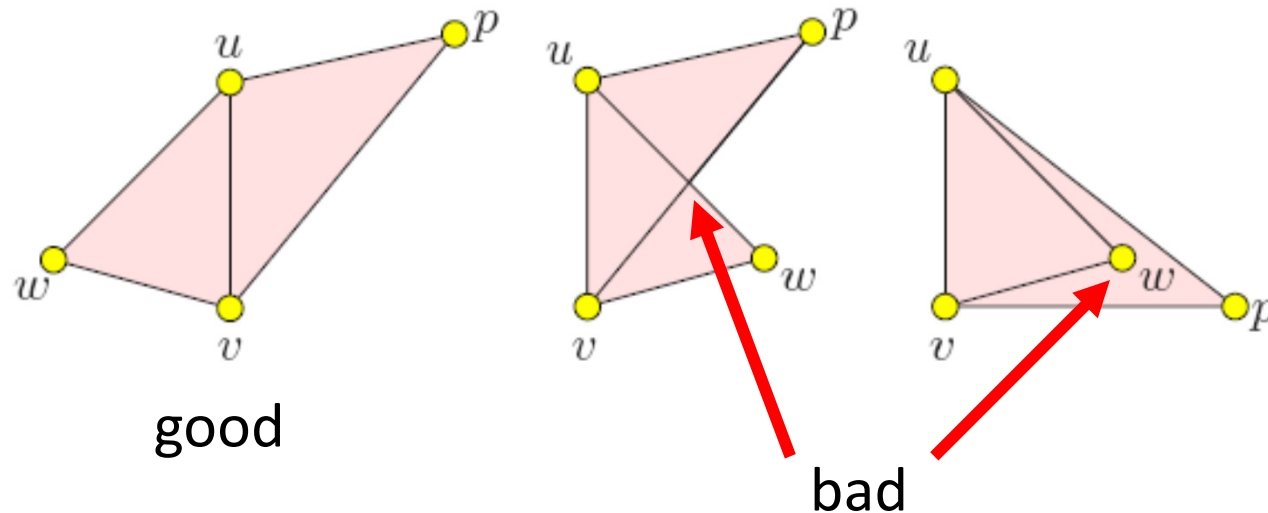
# The algorithm, cont

- Embed the combinatorial Delaunay complex
  - Edge length = network hop count
  - Glue adjacent triangles side by side.



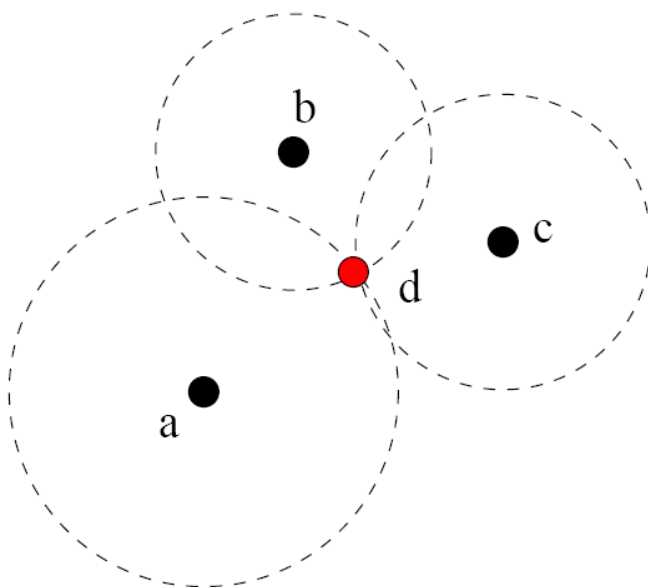
# No flip ambiguity for Delaunay triangles

- Recall: we want to embed as a simplicial complex.
  - Intersection of two simplices is empty or is a common face.



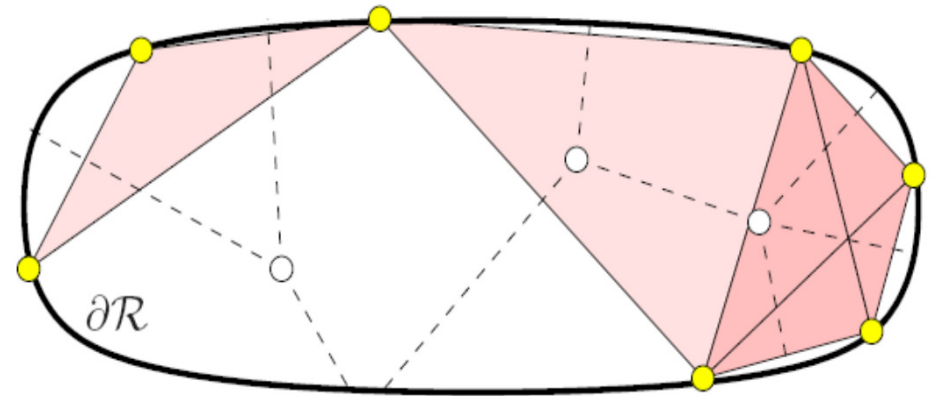
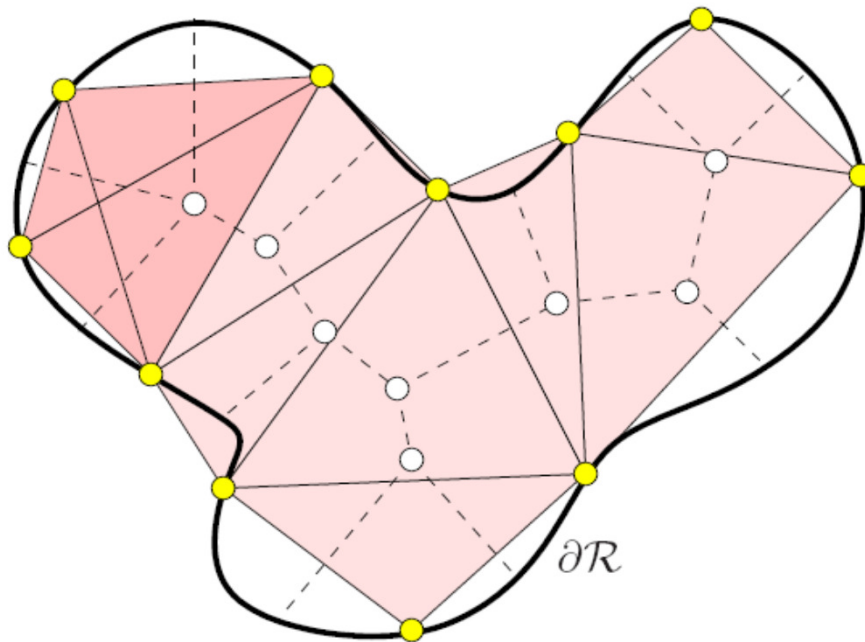
# Algorithm, cont

- Embed the rest of the nodes.
  - Each node embeds itself with hop-count distances to nearby 3 landmarks.



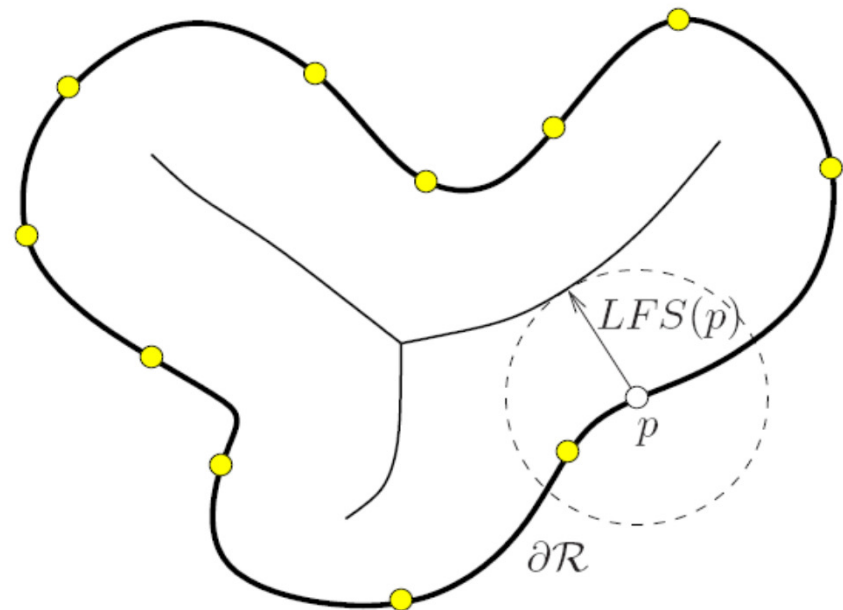
# Are we done?

- How to select landmarks?
- Make sure the Delaunay complex is rigid.



# Landmark selection condition

- If the Voronoi diagram (Voronoi edges and vertices) is connected in  $R$ , then the Delaunay graph is rigid.
- **Sampling criterion:**  
Each boundary point  $p$  has a landmark within  $LFS(p)$ .

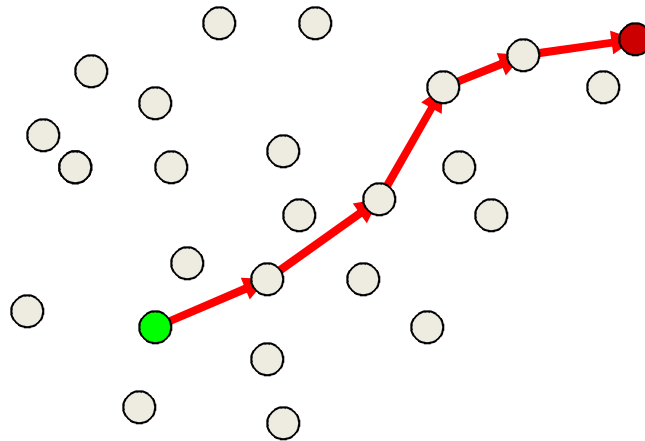


# Two case study

- Network localization
- **Geometric routing**

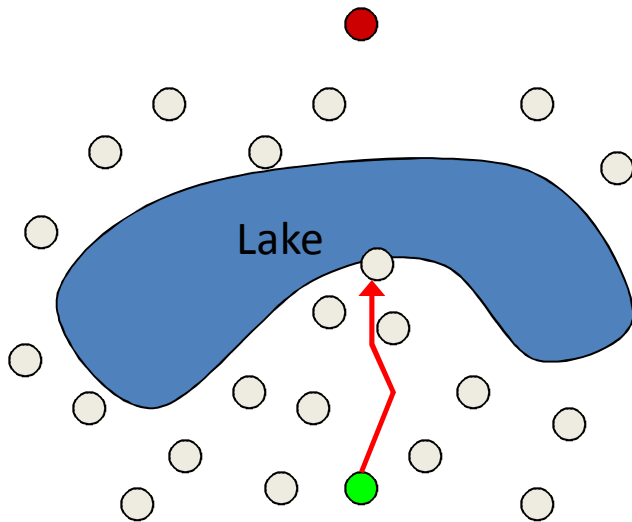
# Greedy Routing in Sensor Networks

- Assign **coordinates** to nodes
- Message moves to neighbor **closest** to destination
- Simple, compact, scalable



# Greedy routing may get stuck

- Can get stuck

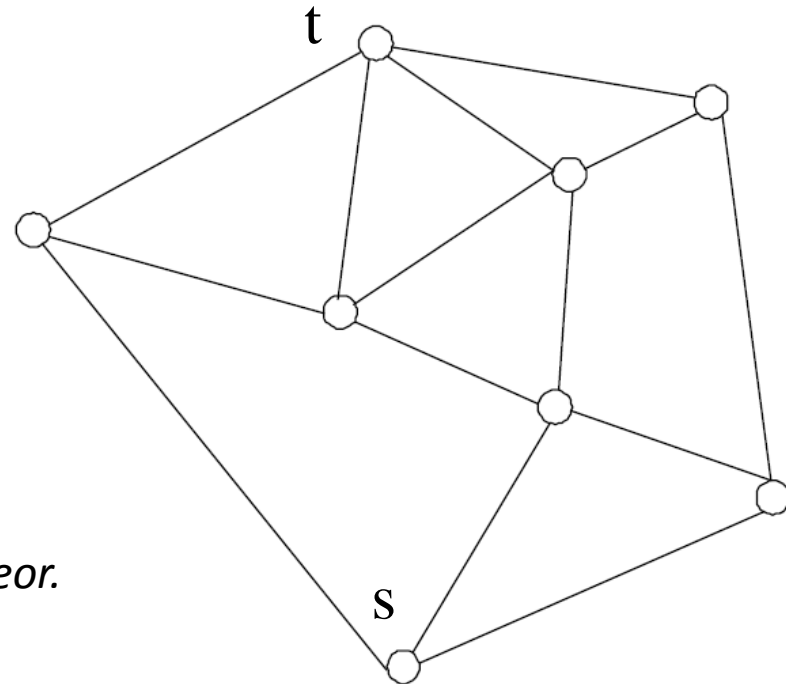


- Find a different embedding so that greedy routing does not get stuck!



# Greedy embedding

- Given a graph  $G$ , find an embedding of the vertices in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , s.t. for each pair of nodes  $s, t$ , there is a neighbor of  $s$  closer to  $t$  than  $s$  itself.
- Q: how to compute?

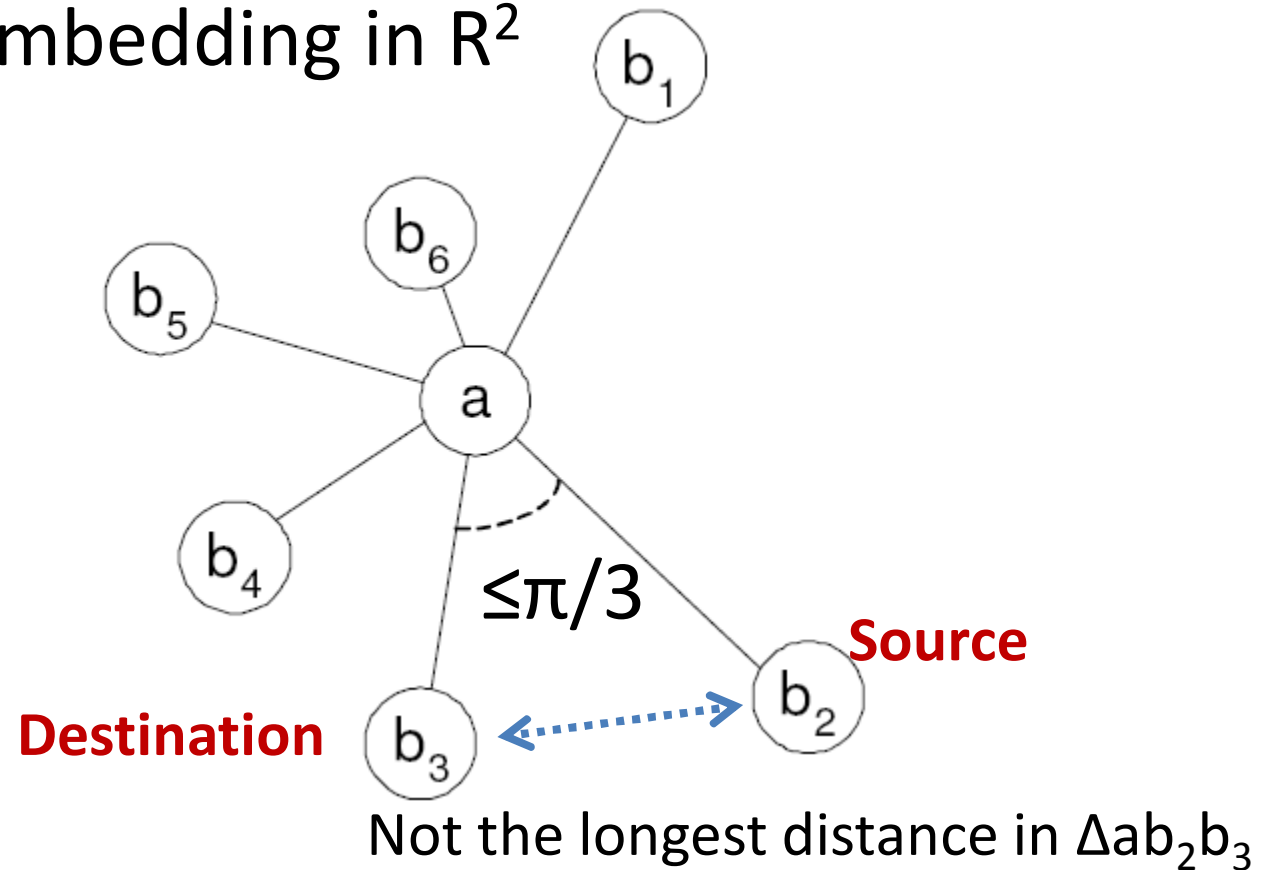


C. H. Papadimitriou and D. Ratajczak. On a conjecture related to geometric routing. *Theor. Comput. Sci.*, 344(1):3–14, 2005.

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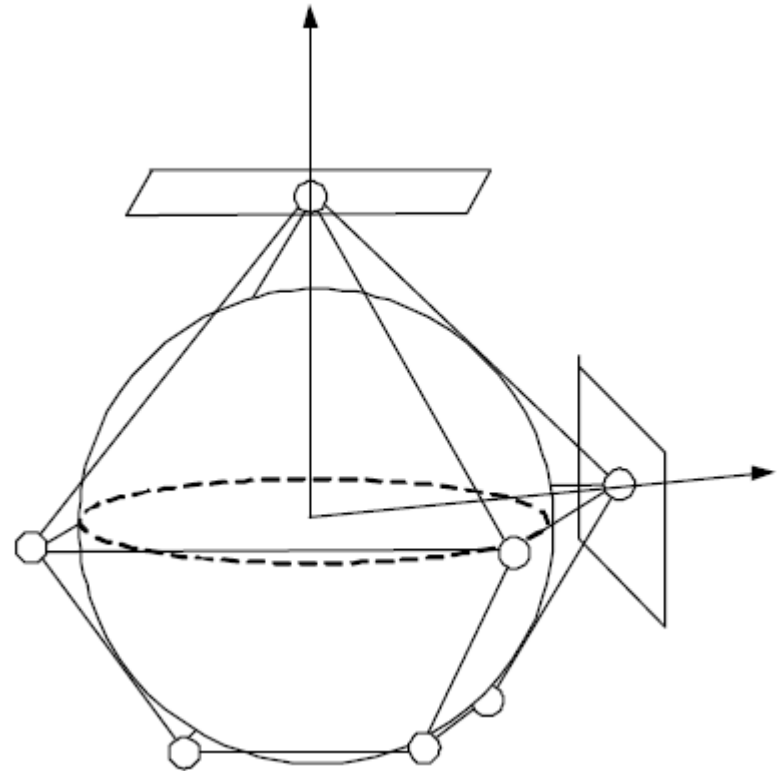
# Greedy embedding does not always exist

- A star with  $\geq 6$  leaves does not have a greedy embedding in  $\mathbb{R}^2$



# Conjecture [Papadimitriou, Ratajczak]

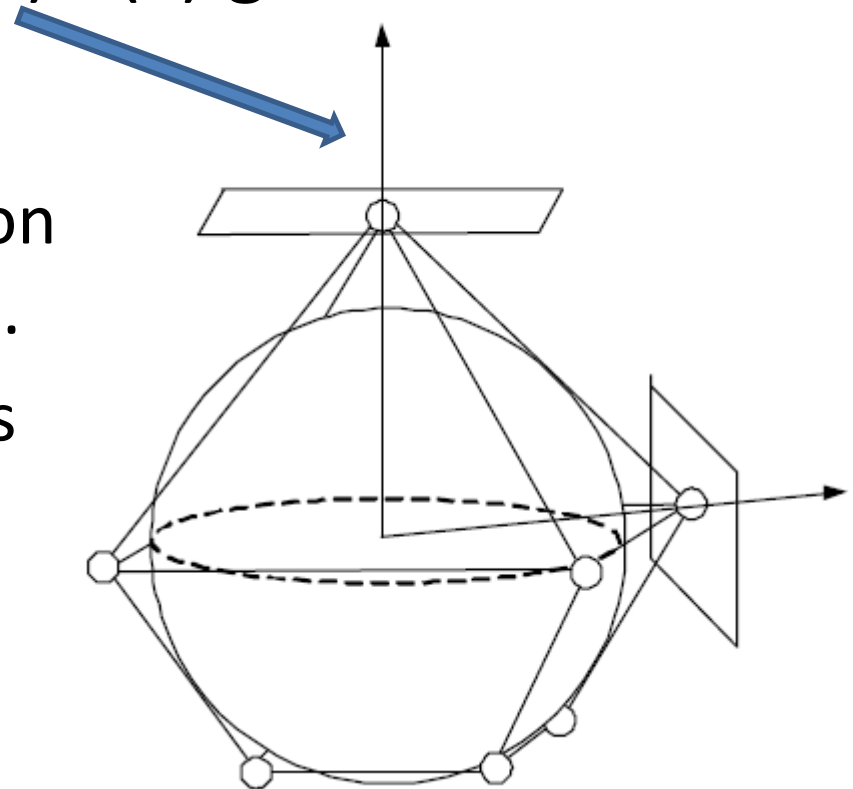
- Any **planar 3-connected** graph has a greedy embedding  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
- Any 3-connected planar graph is the edge graph of a **3D convex polytope**, with edges tangent to a sphere. [Steinitz 1922].



# Polyhedral routing

Theorem: Greedy routing with the distance function  $d(u, v) = -\mathbf{e}(u) \cdot \mathbf{e}(v)$  guarantees delivery.

1. Distance is a linear function  
→ single global minimum.
2. For destination  $v$ ,  $d(u, v)$  is minimum if  $u=v$ .
3. No stuck point due to convexity.



# Progress on the conjecture

- Dhandapani proved that any **triangulation** admits a greedy embedding (SODA'08).
- Leighton and Moitra proved the conjecture (FOCS'08).
- Independently, Angelini et al. also proved it (Graph Drawing'08).

# Leighton and Moitra's Proof

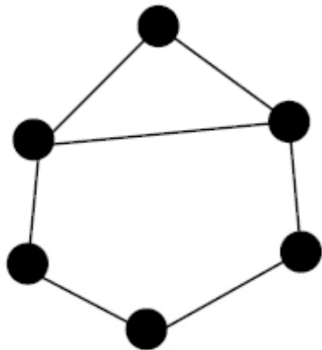
- All 3-connected planar graphs contain a spanning **Christmas Cactus graph**.
- All Christmas Cactus graphs admit a greedy embedding in the plane.

# A Christmas Cactus

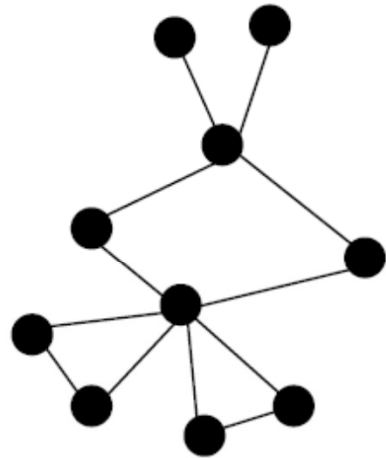


# Christmas cactus graph

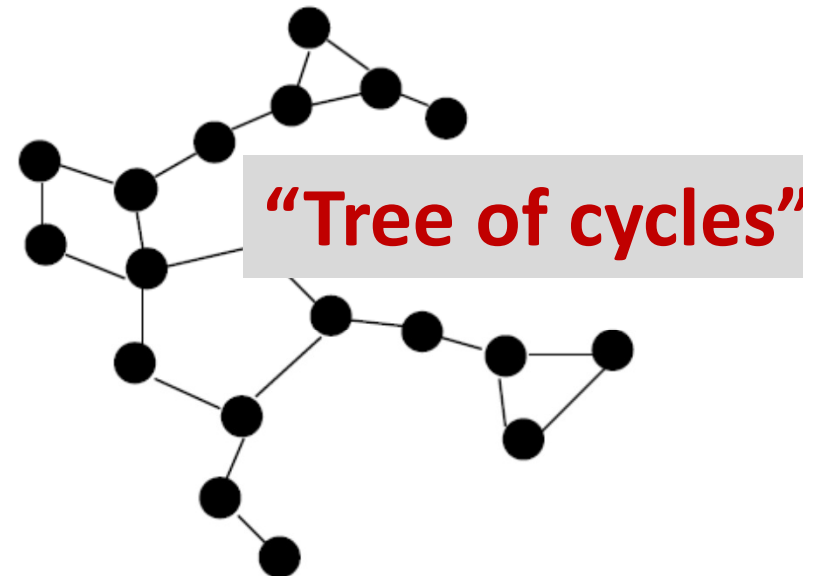
- A **cactus graph** is connected, each edge is in at most one simple cycle.
- A **Christmas Cactus graph** is a cactus graph for which the removal of any node disconnects it into at most 2 pieces.



2013/6/20 not cactus



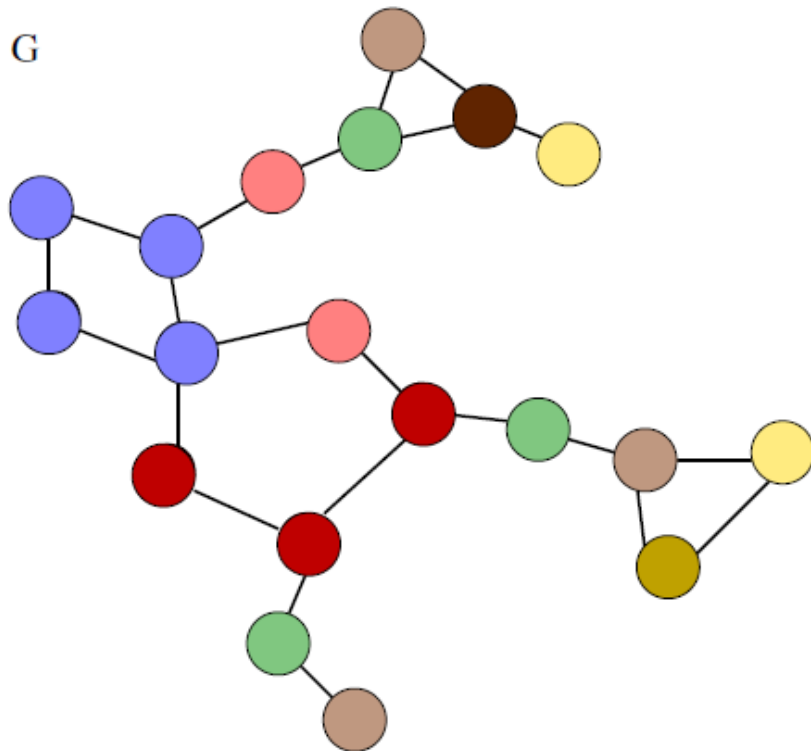
cactus, not Christmas cactus



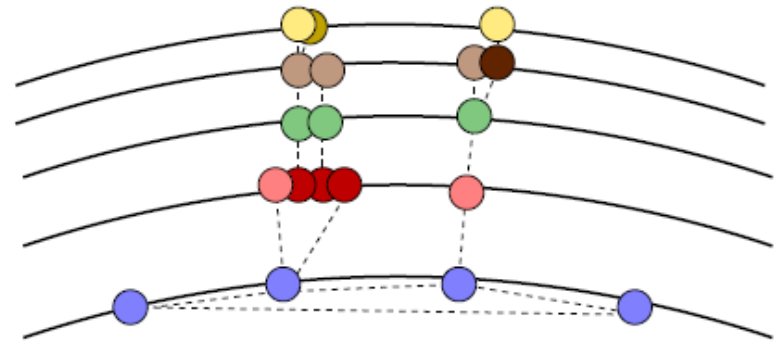
Christmas cactus



# How does the embedding look like?



Leighton and Moitra



- Requires high resolution!
- $\Omega(n \log n)$  bit size coordinates! [Eppstein, Goodrich'08]

# Succinct greedy drawing

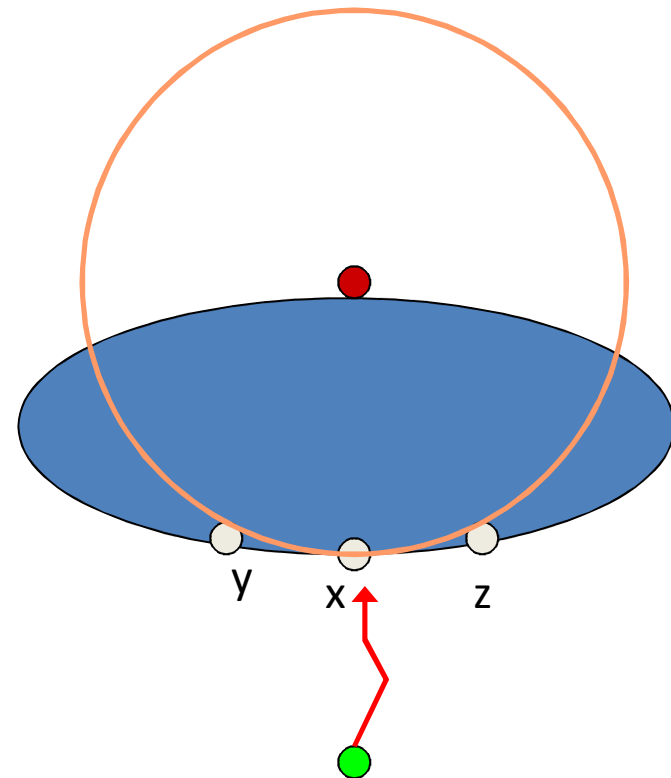
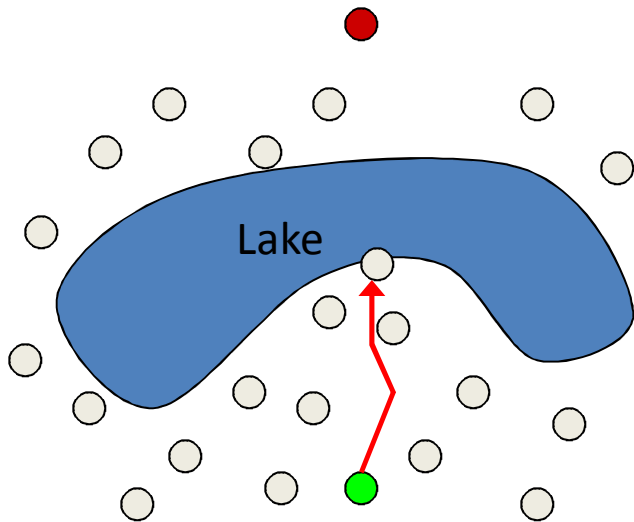
- Goal:  $O(n \log n)$  bit size coordinates.
- But this is in general impossible. [Battista, Frati, Angelini, 2009].
- Notice: no need to store exact coordinates, only need comparison.
- Goldrich and Strash show compressed representation of “Christmas cactus embedding” using  $O(\log n)$  size storage.

# Greedy drawing

- Very nice theory
- In practice: links go up and down.
- Maintaining the greedy drawing is non-trivial.
- Switch to the geometric view.

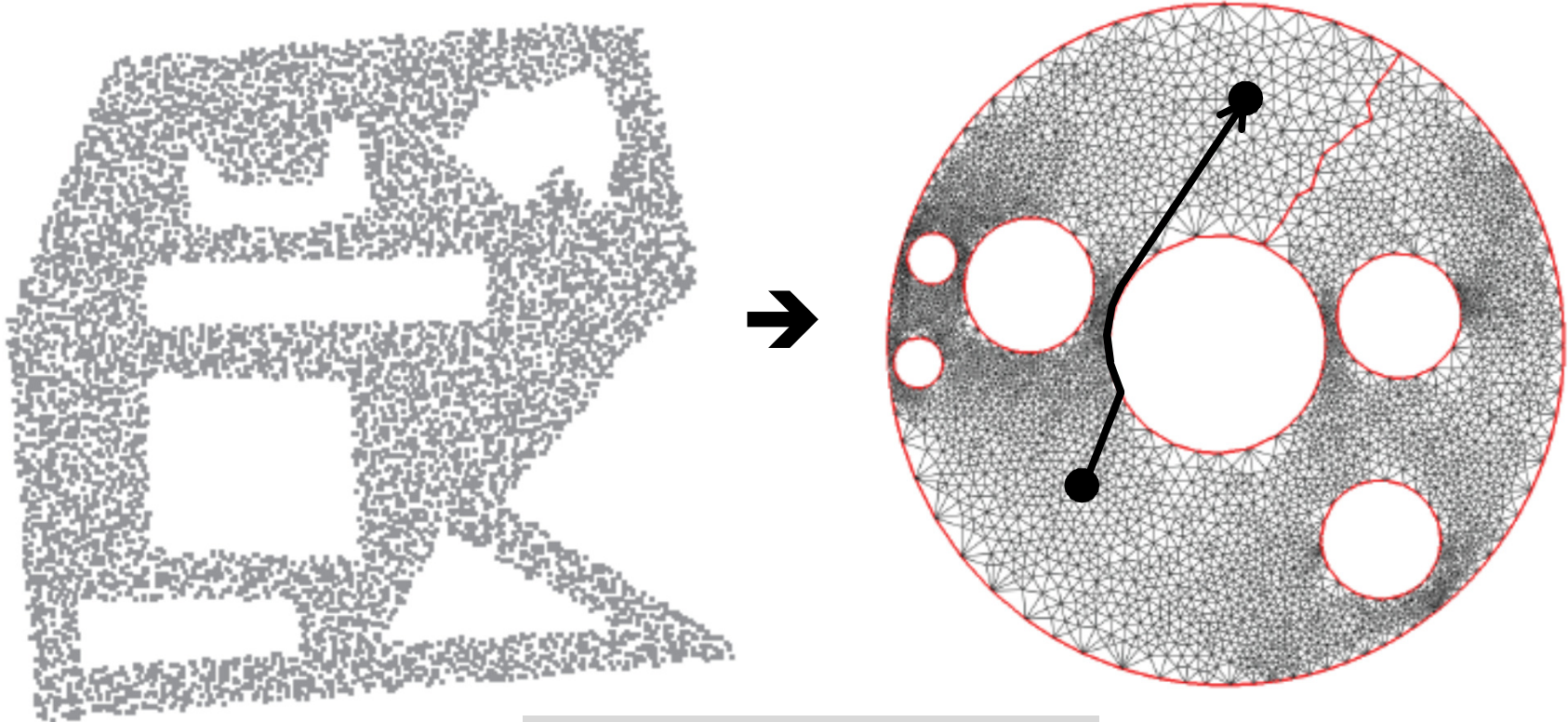
# Greedy routing get stuck at “holes”

- Can get stuck



# Deform the holes to be circular

- Greedy routing does not get stuck at circular holes. [Sarkar, Yin, Gao, Luo, Gu, 2009]



# Conformal map for greedy routing

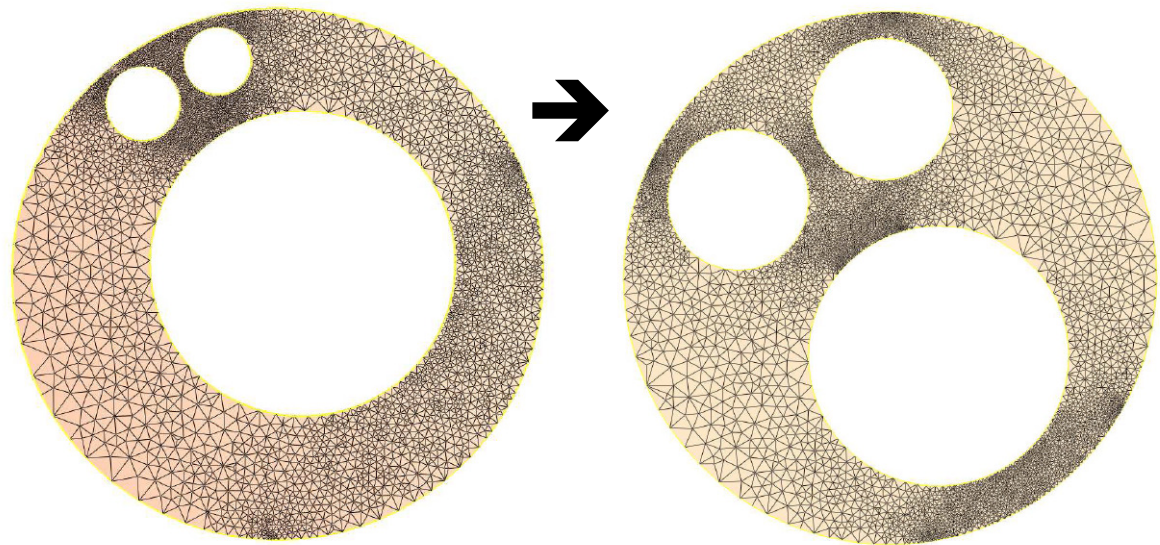
- Curvature flow (Ricci flow) is a natural **distributed** algorithm.
- Deform a complex shape to a simple one, making it easy to explore the **space of paths**.
  - Multi-path routing
  - Recover from link failure
  - Find routes of different homotopy types

# Möbius Transform

- Möbius transform
  - Conformal: maps circles to circles

$$f(z) = \frac{az + b}{cz + d}$$

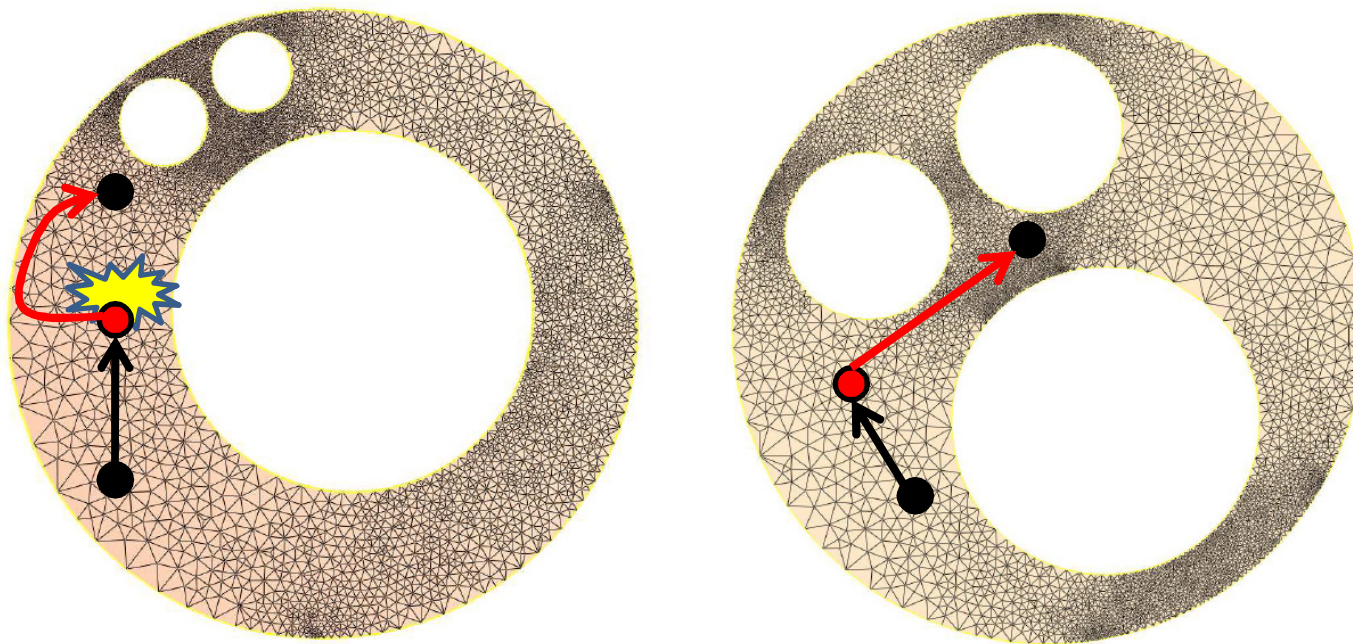
a, b, c, d are 4 complex numbers,  $ad \neq bc$





# Recover from link failure

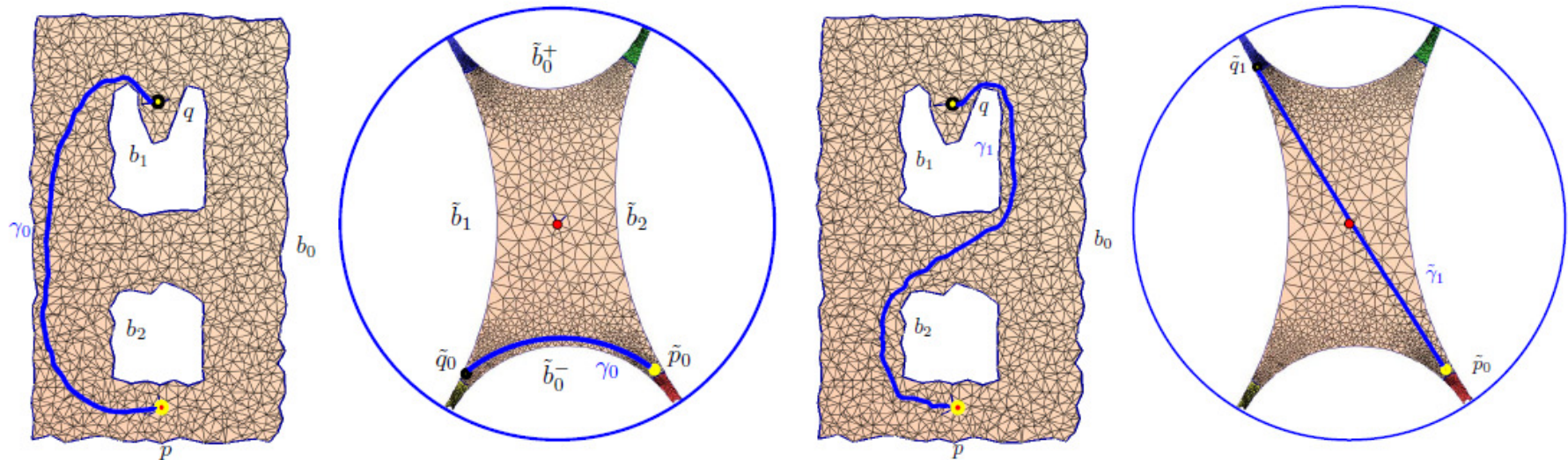
- Apply a **Möbius transformation** & route in an alternative embedding. [Jiang, Ban, Goswami, Zeng, Gao, Gu, 2011]





# Embed into hyperbolic plane

- Greedy routing on the **universal covering space** finds paths of different **homotopy types**. [Zeng, Sarkar, Luo, Gu, Gao, 2010]



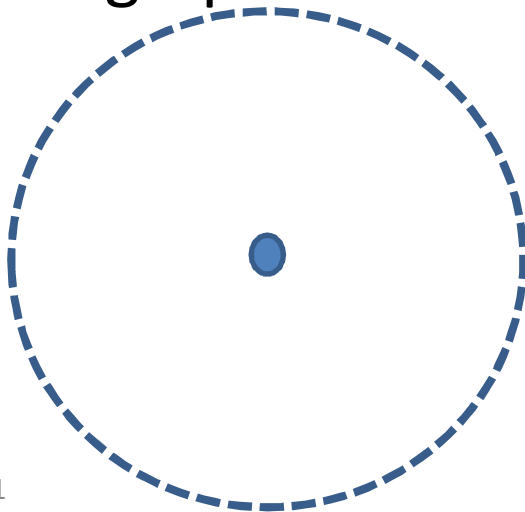
# Conclusion

- Many nice geometric problems
- Modeling the problem is important

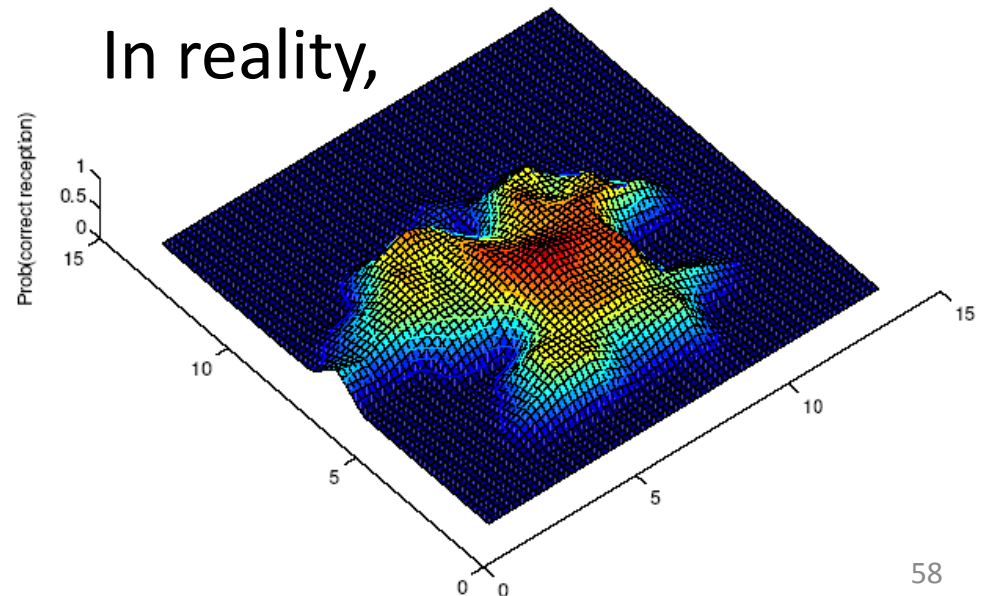
**“All models are wrong, but some are useful.”**

[George E. P. Box]

Unit disk graph model



In reality,



# Questions and Comments

- <http://www.cs.sunysb.edu/~jgao>
- [jgao@cs.sunysb.edu](mailto:jgao@cs.sunysb.edu)
- Jie Gao and Leo Guibas, [Geometric Algorithms for Sensor Networks](#), Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A, 2012.